Guidance on greenhouse gas calculators for agriculture

Project Title	Guidance on greenhouse gas calculators for agriculture
Project Summary	Help develop guidance for users of calculators that estimate greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture.
Country	United States
Country/Region of Focus	Global

Project Description

Agriculture is a major contributor of greenhouse gas emissions that drive climate change, especially in the tropics, and stakeholders need to estimate the influence development projects could have on these emissions, both in advance and after implementation. A number of calculators have been developed to support this need including (for example) Ex-Act, the CCAFS MOT, the ALU tool, and the Cool Farm Tool. These tools vary in a number or respects, making each one more or less useful for different users. Within and beyond USAID, there is a strong need for guidance to help users understand the strengths of each calculator and the types of projects and uses for which it is appropriate.

Collaborating with staff in the Office of Global Climate Change (GCC), and building on existing GCC analysis, the Fellow will develop a framework for comparing these calculators and guidance for users. This effort could also result in identification of gaps in user needs that none of the existing tools meet. The user guidance could include case studies to illustrate the strengths and limitations for different tools.

The Fellow will begin by reviewing previous comparisons of these tools and experimenting with the tools to gain first-hand familiarity and insights. From there, the Fellow will develop a framework for comparison, with guidance from GCC staff, and will use that framework to refine the comparison and develop guidance materials. This guidance will form part of a larger set of analyses that GCC has supported to enable low-emissions agriculture development, and will complement other guidance materials GCC has developed for Agency staff designing climate change programs.

Required Skills or Interests

Skill(s)

Research

Writing

Additional Information

The ideal candidate with have education or experience in land use and climate change, agriculture, and/or international development.

Language Requirements

None